

COLLEGE TERMS AND PROGRAMS

Accelerated Program: Bachelor's degree program completed in less than 4 years, usually requires summer study.

Accreditation: Recognition of a college or university by any of the regional or national accrediting bodies indicating that the institution as a whole has been judged to be meeting its objectives.

ACT: Test administered by the American College Testing Program and required or recommended by many colleges as part of the admission process.

Advanced Placement: Granting of credit and/or assignment to an advanced course on the basis of evidence that the student has mastered the equivalent of an introductory course.

Associate Degree: A degree granted after the satisfactory completion of a two-year full-time program of study or its part-time equivalent.

Bachelor's Degree: A degree received after the satisfactory completion of a four or five year full-time program of study at a college or university.

College Calendars:

Traditional- Two approximately equal semesters.

Early Semester- Two semesters, one completed in December
Quarter- Three equal terms of 12 weeks, one summer term available

Trimester- Three equal semesters, third semester replaces summer term

4-1-4- Two equal terms of about 16 weeks with a four-week interim term

Combined Bachelor/Graduate Program: Also called joint degree, this program provides undergraduate and graduate classes leading to a graduate degree in less time than normal. Available in business, law, medical studies,

Co-op Work Study Program: Student alternates between full-time college study and full-time paid employment related to the area of study. Under this plan, the degree often requires five years to complete.

CLEP: College Level Examination Program where some colleges grant course credit based on results of tests.

CSS Profile: A form which is required by some colleges as a supplement to the FAFSA.

Deferred Admission: Allowing students to postpone enrollment for one year.

Distance Learning: Earning course credit via cable television, Internet, correspondence classes, or satellite classes.

Early Action: Early application program where students are notified of admission status in December, but if accepted, do not have to commit until May 1.

Early Decision: Early application program where students are notified of admission status in December, and if accepted, must withdraw applications from all other colleges. Students must be definitely committed to accept the admission offer.

FAFSA: Free Application for Federal Student Aid-the form used to collect information about the student's and family's resources in order to qualify for financial aid.

Federal Pell Grant: Financial assistance granted to the neediest of students.

Flinn Scholarships: The program, in partnership with Arizona's three state universities, provides enriched educational offerings that expand Scholars' life and career options and create the kind of stimulating, intellectually challenging environment that students might find at the nation's most selective colleges. \$100,000 value.

Honors Programs: Program for superior students to enrich their educational experience through independent, advanced, or accelerated study.

Independent Study: Students earn college credit through individual study, usually planned with and supervised by a faculty advisor.

Internships: Work experience related to a student's course of study which can be paid or unpaid and can earn credit for the student.

Major: The subject of study in which the student chooses to specialize.

Open Admissions: The policy of admitting virtually all high school graduates regardless of academic qualifications.

PSAT: Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test is a practice test for the SAT. Given to juniors in October, it is also the qualifying test that determines National Merit Semi-Finalists.

ROTC: Military Reserved Officer Training Corps provides military education with baccalaureate degree study often with financial support to those students who commit themselves to future service in the military.

Rolling Admission: Consideration of each application as soon as all required material has been received. No deadlines are given and students are admitted on a continuous basis.

SAT: Scholastic Aptitude Test often required or recommended as part of the admission process.

Study Abroad: Student completes part of the college program studying in another country.

Super Scoring: Super scoring is when a student has taken a test multiple times and may want to pick the best scores of individual sections, from multiple tests to have a better overall score. *Note: not all colleges super score*, so be sure to check if your college of interest super scores.

3-2 Program: A three-year program of liberal arts followed by two years of study in a professional program, often at another university. Two bachelor degrees or a master's degree can result.

United Nations Semester: Student takes courses at a college in the New York City area while participating in an internship program at the United Nations.

Urban Semester: Students earn credit for spending a semester in a major city experiencing the complexities of an urban center through course work, seminars, or internships.

Washington Semester: Students participate in an internship program with a government agency or department in Washington, DC while taking courses at area colleges.